

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/672,627

Examiner

Steven B. Theriault

Applicant(s)

MARTYN ET AL.

Art Unit

2179

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment on 10/10/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4, 6-14 and 16-29.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Applicant's Response

1. In Applicant's Response dated October 10, 2007, Applicant's amendments in combination with the arguments filed are persuasive.

All other objections and rejections previously set forth are withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-4, 6-14, and 16-29 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance

Claims 1, 12, 18, 23 and 25

The closest prior art is Grewal et al. that teaches an interface to access a database, via an interface, of images and associated metadata elements. The user can edit and manipulate, via the interface, the metadata by using labels and tags attached to the images (See column 5, lines 10-60). Grewal provides for a distributed access to the image to make changes to program logic controllers that control machines and Industrial processes and the image and metadata represent the control process. Grewal attempts to solve a problem in the art of allowing multiple users to access an image and keeping revisions in sync through the use of metadata tag elements.

Grewal solves the problem by storing metadata access elements within the database where the metadata elements contain version fields, tags and a check-sum flag. The metadata elements can be accessed via a user interface, provided the user has access rights, to view, manage, edit and store information and provides an infrastructure that controls the who, why and where the image can be revised. The Interface of Grewal is interpreted as presenting an image and all of its associated metadata elements. Grewal teaches that the interface allows the user to edit images and assign tags and labels to metadata elements. Grewal does not teach showing only some of the labels along with their values and then determining when the version information is incorrect only when the document is in the non-released state and then updating the image

metadata elements by changing notes and removing notes and truncating revision blocks automatically during a bulk correction when the document is in the released state.

In contrast to the recited claims, Grewal is not seen as teaching or suggesting a display that **only shows** the label and corresponding values to at least some of the metadata elements and where elements found in predefined locations of the document are displayed. Further, Grewal is not seen as suggesting or teaching the determining when one of the plurality of metadata elements is incorrect, wherein when the document is specified as being in a non-released state, the revision identifier is not identified as being incorrect and wherein when the document is specified as being in a released state, the revision identifier is identified as being incorrect wherein the computing device automatically bulk corrects only the incorrect metadata elements located in the predefined locations by globally repeating the corrections in multiple locations of the document at one time with a batch process, wherein change notes and extraneous notes are removed and revision blocks are truncated automatically during bulk correcting when the document is specified as being in the released state, as recited in the amended claims.

The prior art of Yasue et al. teaches bulk data metaserver that manages attribute, component and object information for every element within the document database. Each component, attribute and object attribute can be accessed via an interface on a users workstation and comprises metadata. Yasue teaches that the components and objects along with the associated metadata are tracked individually for the purposes of managing updates throughout the design process. Yasue attempts to solve a problem in the art of maintaining in a central location a list of components, object and attributes used in a common 2d/3d design environment with design collaborators located in several locations where the data, components and objects are in constant flux.

Yasue solves the problem by storing model data and metadata in separate databases and distributing the bulk metadata servers to allow data updates from multiple locations, thus the metadata can be maintained in a real-time between various departments and users. Further, a

common component notification change is sent via email or over the network notifying all users of the changes to a given component. Yasue teaches a CAD application that can access the drawings and attributes and allows the user to perform operations on the components whereby changes to objects and attributes will be changed.

In contrast to the amended claims, Yasue is not seen as teaching or suggesting a display that **only shows** the label and corresponding values to at least some of the metadata elements and where elements found in predefined locations of the document are displayed. Further, Yasue is not seen as suggesting or teaching the determining when one of the plurality of metadata elements is incorrect, wherein when the document is specified as being in a non-released state, the revision identifier is not identified as being incorrect and wherein when the document is specified as being in a released state, the revision identifier is identified as being incorrect wherein the computing device automatically bulk corrects only the incorrect metadata elements located in the predefined locations by globally repeating the corrections in multiple locations of the document at one time with a batch process, wherein change notes and extraneous notes are removed and revision blocks are truncated automatically during bulk correcting when the document is specified as being in the released state, as recited in the amended claims.

The prior art of Jungreis et al. teaches an interface that presents a 3D model of an object with multiple views within a design interfaces, such as a CAD interface. Jungreis teaches the user makes changes to one view of the object and the changes are propagated to the other views for the purposes of regenerating a portion of the model to reflect the changes the user has made. Jungreis teaches that once an element has changed it may be necessary to change the associated elements as well, for the purposes of updating design constraints in the model. The associated elements comprise metadata and drawing elements located in various sections of the interface. Jungreis teaches the process of displaying associated metadata items in a pane but shows all of the metadata for a given element (See Figure 2, 66).

However, Jungreis is not seen as teaching or suggesting a display that **only shows** the label and corresponding values to at least some of the metadata elements and where elements

found in predefined locations of the document are displayed. Further, Yasue is not seen as suggesting or teaching the determining when one of the plurality of metadata elements is incorrect, wherein when the document is specified as being in a non-released state, the revision identifier is not identified as being incorrect and wherein when the document is specified as being in a released state, the revision identifier is identified as being incorrect wherein the computing device automatically bulk corrects only the incorrect metadata elements located in the predefined locations by globally repeating the corrections in multiple locations of the document at one time with a batch process, wherein change notes and extraneous notes are removed and revision blocks are truncated automatically during bulk correcting when the document is specified as being in the released state, as recited in the amended claims.

The prior art of Leblang et al teaches a command line interface that allows the user to access a list of elements, via a Unix terminal, to dynamically change the software located in the code repository. Leblang expressly teaches using a system to maintain version control of CAD application drawings and the user of labels assigned to metadata elements. Leblang also teaches a bulk batch process that allows the labeled elements to received changes via the batch update. Leblang attempts to solve a problem in the art of maintaining a real-time update process of revisions and the capability to track progress in task completion. '

Leblang solves the problem in the art by using a rule based version selection system that maintains a complete list of items used in a particular view and stores the list as metadata. Every object in the list has an Id and a label. Leblang presents the view to a user based on the configuration record which save time in presenting the view if the users already has the correct items specified in the record. Further, through the use of command line entries the user can access a particular path in a tree of objects and view the objects and elements in a given path. The user can then make changes to an object, which are added to the system and propagated to all users using the same view.

However, Leblang is not seen as suggesting or teaching the determining when one of the plurality of metadata elements is incorrect, wherein when the document is specified as being in a

non-released state, the revision identifier is not identified as being incorrect and wherein when the document is specified as being in a released state, the revision identifier is identified as being incorrect wherein the computing device automatically bulk corrects only the incorrect metadata elements located in the predefined locations by globally repeating the corrections in multiple locations of the document at one time with a batch process, wherein change notes and extraneous notes are removed and revision blocks are truncated automatically during bulk correcting when the document is specified as being in the released state, as recited in the amended claims.

Therefore, when taken as a whole or in combination the prior art of Grewal, Yasue, Leblang, or Jungreis do not teach or suggest to the skilled artisan that the combination of features as recited in the amended claims could be brought together to achieve all of the limitations of the claims and therefore claims 1, 12, 18, 23 and 25 are allowed.

Claims 2-4, 6-11, 13-14, 16-17, 19-22, 24, and 26-29:

These claims are dependent upon Claim 1, 12, 18, 23 and 25 and are thus allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

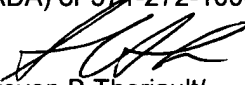
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven B. Theriault whose telephone number is (571) 272-5867. The examiner can normally be reached on M, W, F 10:00AM - 8:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on (571) 272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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